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ABSTRACT

Noting that there is more to grouping readers than the traditional grouping by ability, this book describes a variety of grouping patterns and ways to implement them throughout the elementary grades. It notes that flexible grouping allows teachers to address diverse classrooms with diverse needs and examines research on grouping practices in reading programs. It includes stories of teachers who have implemented flexible grouping in their reading programs, and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of each pattern. After an introduction, the chapters are: (1) Grouping Patterns in Reading Instruction: What Research Tells Us; (2) Whole Group Instruction: One Text For All Readers; (3) Flexible Small Group Instruction: Different Books and Different Purposes for Different Groups; (4) Individualized Reading Programs: Different Books for Each Reader; (5) Cooperative Grouping: Mixed Groups for a Common Purpose; (6) Paired Grouping: Partners for Many Purposes; (7) Wee Readers: Reading Workshop in Kindergarten; (8) Reading Workshop for the First-Grade Emergent Reader; (9) Reading Workshop in a Multiage Classroom; (10) Grouping Without Tracking: Whole-Class Instruction in Second Grade; and (11) Flexible Grouping in Middle School. An appendix provides an overview of common grouping patterns. (Contains 138 references.) (PM)